

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01763 090948Z

22

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-05 /085 W

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P R 090852Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5918

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1763

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KN

SUBJECT: DPRK DIPLOMATIC PR EFFORT FOLLOWS PYONGYANG

CHIEF OF MISSIONS CONFERENCE

REF: MOSCOW 1568 (DTG 031450Z FEB 76)

1. ACCORDING TO MOFA, AT LEAST 25 DPRK AMBASSADORS FROM THE 33 COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE REPRESENTATION FROM BOTH THE ROK AND DPRK ATTENDED A CONFERENCE IN PYONGYANG IN LATE JANUARY AND EARLY FEBRUARY. MANY OF THESE AMBASSADORS HAVE NOT YET RETURNED TO THEIR POSTS.

2. THE AMBASSADORIAL CONFERENCE COINCIDED WITH A PERIOD IN WHICH KIM IL-SONG WAS ABSENT FROM PUBLIC VIEW MORE THAN USUAL. ACCORDING TO MOFA KIM MADE FOUR APPEARANCES IN FEBRUARY AND HAS MADE FIVE OR SIX IN MARCH THUS FAR.

3. IN THE LAST FEW DAYS THE DPRK HAS ALSO APPARENTLY LAUNCHED
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PAGE 02 SEOUL 01763 090948Z

A NEW EFFORT DIRECTED AT THE UN AND THE THIRD WORLD TO

PORTRAY THE U.S. AND THE ROK AS THREATS TO THE PEACE OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA. PUBLIC STATEMENTS CONNECTED WITH THIS APPARENT EFFORT SPECIFICALLY DENOUNCE DEPLOYMENT OF US F-111'S AND THE INCREASE OF U.S. FORCES IN THE ROK BY 4,000 MEN. TO THIS DEGREE THE STATEMENTS ARE CONSISTENT WITH AN APPARENT DPRK EFFORT OVER THE PAST YEAR TO ADD CREDIBILITY TO THEIR PUBLIC DENUNCIATIONS OF THE U.S. AND ROK BY BASING THEIR STATEMENTS ON DEMONSTRABLE FACTS, WHILE DISTORTING THE ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS SUFFICIENTLY TO CONVEY THE IMPRESSION THAT THE U.S. AND ROK ARE ATTEMPTING TO HEIGHTEN TENSION ON THE PENINSULA IN ORDER TO THREATEN THE PEACE.

COMMENT: ALTHOUGH EVIDENCE IS IN SHORT SUPPLY, THE JUXTAPOSITION OF THE AMBASSADORIAL CONFERENCE WITH THE RECENT DPRK PRESS CONFERENCES MARCH 4 AND 5 AT THE UN AND THE KCNA BROADCAST APPEAL MARCH 6 TO QTE THE PARLIAMENTS AND GOVERNMENTS OF ALL THE WORLD TO EXERT ACTIVE EFFORTS TO COMPEL THE U.S. TO DISSOLVE THE UN COMMAND AND WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS FROM SOUTH KOREA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UN RESOLUTION UNQTE, SUPPORTS THE CONCLUSION THAT THE NORTH KOREANS HAVE COMPLETED INITIAL PLANNING FOR A DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO GAIN WORLD SUPPORT FOR THEIR POSITION. IT WOULD APPEAR THEY ARE NOW BEGINNING THEIR 1976 CAMPAIGN TO TRANSLATE SUPPORT INTO VOTES AT THE NONALIGNED CONFERENCE IN COLOMBO AND AT THE 31ST UNGA. END COMMENT.

ACTION REQUESTED: ROKS OBVIOUSLY MOST INTERESTED IN ANY INFO WE MAY HAVE ON THIS SUBJECT AND WE BELIEVE IT WORTHWHILE TO KEEP UP THE DIALOGUE. WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENT OR ANALYSIS DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE REGARDING DPRK APPARENT CAMPAIGN FOR DISCUSSION WITH IGXS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, AMBASSADORS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SEOUL01763
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760088-0769
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760379/aaaacscv.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MOSCOW 1568
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 FEB 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DPRK DIPLOMATIC PR EFFORT FOLLOWS PYONGYANG CHIEF OF MISSIONS CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, KN, KS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006